

Ranger Programs



Badlands National Park is in the Mountain Time Zone. Programs are presented at several locations throughout the park. These locations are identified in the park newspaper and park brochure. You can also find them by watching for white signs announcing programs along the Loop Road.



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These programs run from Sunday, May 29 through Saturday, September 10, 2011

Geology Walk

8:30 a.m. Daily

Explore the geologic story of the White River Badlands on this 45 minute walk. Meet at the Door Trailhead located at the far north end of the Doors/Windows parking area two miles south of the Northeast Entrance Station on the Badlands Loop Road. Wear a hat and closed-toe shoes. Terrain is varied.



Fossil Talk

10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m. Daily

Explore what fossils can tell us about the story of ancient life in the Badlands and why they should be protected at this 15 - 20 minute talk. Meet at the Fossil Exhibit Trail, 5 miles northwest of the park headquarters/visitor center on the Badlands Loop Road.

Junior Ranger Program

10:30 a.m. Daily through August 27, 2011

Calling all visitors between 7 and 12 years of age! Meet at the Ben Reifel Visitor Center for a 45 minute adventure into an aspect of the Badlands. Wear closed-toe shoes and a hat. It may be a walk, a game, or another activity. Attendees will be awarded a Junior Ranger badge and patch. Parents are also welcome!

Prairie Walk

5:30 p.m. Daily through August 27, 2011

Join a park ranger for this easy, 1/2 mile walk into the prairie. Meet at the Ben Reifel Visitor Center for an exploration of prairie life and landscape. Wear closed-toe shoes and bring a hat and water.



Night Sky Program

Fri. - Mon. (Program start times are listed below. Meet at the amphitheater.)

Join a park ranger for a 40 minute to 1 hour presentation at the Cedar Pass Campground Amphitheater. This program takes a cultural look at the night sky in Badlands National Park. Be sure to remember your binoculars, the ranger will help you to locate constellations, stars, and planets. Program will start when the sky is dark!



Sun Fun

Fri. - Mon. 3:00 p.m.

Participate in solar activities and view the sun through a solar telescope. Meet in front of the Ben Reifel Visitor Center. Wear sunscreen and a hat.



Evening Program

Tues. - Thurs. (Program start times are listed below. Meet at the amphitheater.)

Join a park ranger for a 40 minute to 1 hour presentation at the Cedar Pass Campground Amphitheater. A weekly listing of program topics is available at the Ben Reifel Visitor Center and bulletin boards throughout the park. Program will start when the sky is dark!

Night Sky & Evening Program start times:

May, June, July 9:00 p.m.

August 8:30 p.m.

September 8:00 p.m.